

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

/GB2004/000724

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G01V3/28

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01V

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 260 661 A (VAIL III WILLIAM B) 9 November 1993 (1993-11-09) column 4, line 34 - line 39 column 4, line 66 - column 5, line 1 column 6, line 25 - line 29 column 7, line 8 - line 44 figure 1	1,2
Y		3-10
X	US 6 147 496 A (VAN DER HORST MELIS ET AL) 14 November 2000 (2000-11-14) column 2, line 10 - line 54 column 4, line 28 - line 62 column 5, line 14 - line 26 column 5, line 35 - line 51 column 6, line 11 - line 27 figure 2	1,2
Y		3-10
	--- -/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

2 September 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

22/09/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Schneiderbauer, K

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ational Application No

/GB2004/000724

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 999 883 A (KRIEGSHAUSER BERTHOLD F ET AL) 7 December 1999 (1999-12-07) cited in the application column 2, line 49 - line 65 column 16, line 61 - line 65	3-10
A	US 2003/011371 A1 (ROSTHAL RICHARD A ET AL) 16 January 2003 (2003-01-16) page 4, paragraph 48 column 5, paragraphs 49,50 figures 6,7	1-10
A	US 5 652 519 A (ROBISON JESSE G ET AL) 29 July 1997 (1997-07-29) column 3, line 30 - line 42 column 6, line 10 - line 29	1-10
A	US 2003/030439 A1 (GAO LI ET AL) 13 February 2003 (2003-02-13) page 1, paragraph 13 page 2, paragraph 30 figure 1	1-10

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

/GB2004/000724

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5260661	A	09-11-1993	US 4901023 A	13-02-1990
			US 5065100 A	12-11-1991
			US 4748415 A	31-05-1988
			CA 1297153 C	10-03-1992
US 6147496	A	14-11-2000	AU 707977 B2	22-07-1999
			AU 3442197 A	21-01-1998
			BR 9710024 A	10-08-1999
			CA 2256771 A1	08-01-1998
			CN 1222978 A ,C	14-07-1999
			DE 69715411 D1	17-10-2002
			DE 69715411 T2	05-06-2003
			EA 1862 B1	22-10-2001
			WO 9800733 A1	08-01-1998
			EP 0909398 A1	21-04-1999
			JP 2000514181 T	24-10-2000
			NO 986210 A	28-01-1999
			NZ 333980 A	27-03-2000
			OA 11019 A	10-03-2003
US 5999883	A	07-12-1999	US 5781436 A	14-07-1998
			US 6044325 A	28-03-2000
			CA 2209827 A1	26-01-1998
			GB 2315867 A ,B	11-02-1998
			ID 17497 A	08-01-1998
			IT RM970458 A1	25-01-1999
			NL 1006659 C2	03-09-1999
			NL 1006659 A1	28-01-1998
			NO 973206 A	27-01-1998
			US 5999884 A	07-12-1999
			US 5854991 A	29-12-1998
US 2003011371	A1	16-01-2003	US 2002105332 A1	08-08-2002
			GB 2393255 A	24-03-2004
			AU 765066 B2	04-09-2003
			AU 9340401 A	20-06-2002
			CA 2363789 A1	15-06-2002
			GB 2376076 A ,B	04-12-2002
			NO 20016101 A	17-06-2002
			US 2003155924 A1	21-08-2003
			US 2003146753 A1	07-08-2003
			US 2003146751 A1	07-08-2003
US 5652519	A	29-07-1997	US 5892362 A	06-04-1999
US 2003030439	A1	13-02-2003	BR 0203118 A	27-05-2003
			CA 2397168 A1	09-02-2003
			GB 2382146 A	21-05-2003
			NO 20023758 A	10-02-2003